



Meeting of **Clent Parish Council** held at **7:00pm on Monday 19th January 2026**
at Clent Parish Hall, Church Ave, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QT

Minutes

Present: Cllr Ed Sheppard, Cllr Andrew Sherrey, Cllr Margaret Sherrey, Cllr Sara ffoulkes, Cllr Drew Beaumont, Cllr Mark Brocklebank (from 5808).

In attendance: Nick Farress (Clerk), 1 member of the public.

5804 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Bates, Cllr Margaret Sherrey, County and District Councillor Karen May and District Councillor Simon Nock.

5805 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5806 Dispensations

There were none.

5807 Casual Vacancy

An election was not called by 10+ residents by the 26th November 2025, so the PC was free to co-opt a member to the council. One application had been received by an eligible individual, and it was therefore **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Mark Brocklebank residing in Clent to the parish council.

5808 Clent Youth Council

The Chair of the Youth Council provided updates on the following:

- Valentines event at the Parish Hall. It was **RESOLVED** to allocate £75 for refreshments for the event which would be open to all residents.
- Basketball hoop – Cllr Sheppard was still talking to the supplier about fixings.
- Redundant leaflet boxes and dog waste bag dispensers in and around the playing fields. The leaflet boxes belong to Clent Connect and the dog waste bag dispensers are no longer filled by the PC. Cllr Sheppard would remove the dispensers and speak to Clent Connect about removing their empty boxes.

Public comments/questions:

The following issues were raised by the public:

- No questions from the public.

County and District Councillor Updates

Councillors Karen May and Simon Nock had given their apologies.

5809 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2025 be agreed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

5810 Correspondence

The following correspondence was considered:

(a) A request from Mr Lawrence Weston (Clent Orchard) for the PC to agree and fund 3 additional fruit trees for the orchard at a cost of £85 per tree. It **RESOLVED** to agree to this proposal and fund the new trees.

5811 Finance

(a) Payments – December 2025 – it was **RESOLVED** to ratify the payment of the following for December 2025 from the council's current account via the Unity Trust Bank internet banking system:

Date	Supplier	Payments
17/12/2025	First Choice Electrical	300.00
17/12/2025	Bromsgrove CAB Grant	300.00
18/12/2025	HMRC PAYE	89.77
18/12/2025	N Farress salary	807.03
18/12/2025	Bromsgrove DC Lease of Land	60.00
18/12/2025	BFC Ministry Newsletter Entry	165.00
18/12/2025	Playdale Playgrounds	8,008.56
22/12/2025	ICO Fee	47.00
22/12/2025	Scottish Power	19.40
31/12/2025	bank charges	6.00

(b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report (circulated previously)

(c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the monthly bank reconciliation for December (circulated previously) noting a balance at 31/12/25 £90,188.09.

(d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for the 2026/27 financial year (appended to these Minutes at APPENDIX ONE) and demand the annual precept of £49,850 from Bromsgrove DC. This represents a 0% increase in the parish element of the council tax bill.

ACTIONS: NF

5812 General maintenance & highway matters

(a) Nimmings Car Park and highway improvements to discourage late night ASB (Cllr May/NT) – progress update on stopping up order and new TRO – this was with the NT currently but there have been changes to the staffing structure which has delayed progress.

(b) Litter bin outside parish hall – quote from BDC (Cllr May) – this was with Cllr May. The Clerk would ask for an update and also on the replacement bin required outside the church.

(c) New VAS for Bromsgrove Rd – the unit was on order with WCC and the Clerk had been in contact with WCC Highways in relation to raising an invoice for the unit.

(d) Adams Hill drainage work had been completed by the NT. Adams Hill could now be added to the winter gritting route.

(e) WCC were getting round to refilling the yellow grit bins. Cllr Sheppard had already re-filled the green PC boxes.

ACTIONS: KM/NF

5813 Field Maintenance & Play Areas

(a) Trim Trail field lease – update re potential asset transfer. This is with the BDC legal department and Cllr May is attempting to “fast track” the process.

(b) Play area new access gate – update on purchase and installation – Cllr Bates was absent so no update was available.

(c) Pathway to new accessible roundabout – quotes had not yet been received.

ACTIONS: PB/KM

5814 Planning

There were no new planning applications to consider.

(a) Outline Application - 25/01475/OUT - Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for primary means of vehicular access from Western Road) for the development of up to 123 dwellings together with associated access, green and blue infrastructure (including play provision, public open space and drainage), required ground remodelling and supporting infrastructure.

Land North Of Western Road, Western Road, Hagley, Worcestershire.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the basis that it would damage wildlife corridors and would put unacceptable pressure on local infrastructure and services which are already overstretched. The Clerk would send a response to BDC.

b) Outline Application - 25/01465/OUT - Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for primary means of vehicular access from Western Road) for the development of up to 57 dwellings together with associated access, green and blue infrastructure (including public open space and drainage), required ground remodelling and supporting infrastructure

Land North Of Western Road, Western Road, Hagley, Worcestershire.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the basis that it would damage wildlife corridors and would put unacceptable pressure on local infrastructure and services which are already overstretched. The Clerk would send a response to BDC.

(c) Kings Meadow – tree clearance was currently taking place at this site. A fresh application for a dwelling could follow. It was agreed that this should be monitored.

5815 Parish Magazine

There were no specific items for the March issue, so the Clerk would write a general update..

ACTION: NF

5816 Councillor updates and items for next Agenda.

The Clerk had asked for annual leave for the February meeting due to an existing commitment. It was agreed that Cllr Andrew Sherrey would take notes of the meeting on the Clerk's behalf.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council is the 16th February 2026 at Clent Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

APPENDIX ONE

ITEM	APPROVED 2026/2027 Figures
Salary	£11,100.00
PAYE/NI	£1,000.00
Clerk Mileage	£150.00
Defibrillators	£500.00
Lengthsman	£4,877.00
Chairman Allowance	£500.00
Councillor Mileage	£50.00
Home Office	£240.00
Training	£100.00
Meetings & Refreshments	£350.00
Subscriptions	£890.00
Insurance	£2,100.00
Auditor fees	£685.00
General Admin	£400.00
Elections	£0.00
Grants	£2,500.00
Newsletters/Printing	£300.00
Website	£800.00
Parish Events/Youth Council	£500.00
Lease of Land	£240.00
Litter bins and Dog Bags	£3,000.00
Grass Cutting	£3,000.00
Hedges/Trees	£1,500.00
Play Eqt & gym maintenance	£29,250.00
Christmas Tree	£600.00
General Grounds Maint (not grass cutting, hedges or trees)	£1,000.00
Electricity	£120.00
Street Lighting	£2,000.00
Legal Fees	£0.00
Outdoor spaces/field Improvements (inc pond)	£0.00
RESERVES ALLOCATED TO PLAY EQT LINE	-£14,482.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	53,270.00

INCOME	
Precept	£49,850.00
Bank Interest	£0.00
Cricket Club Rent	£400.00
Lengthsman	£2,895.00
Wayleaves	£125.00
Misc	£0.00
VAT	£0.00
TOTAL INCOME	£53,270.00